

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02823 081118Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 EUR-12 IO-13 /096 W  
-----012720 081127Z /10

P R 081028Z SEP 78  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1954  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2823

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, CH  
SUBJ: SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF MAO'S DEATH: POSTERS AND AT-  
MOSPHERICS

REF: PEKING 2652

1. SUMMARY. ON THE EVE OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF CHAIR-  
MAN MAO'S DEATH, ACTIVITIES IN TIENANMEN SQUARE ARE STILL  
LOW-KEYED. CANTON MILITARY REGION COMMANDER HSU SHIH-YU,  
NOT KNOWN FOR HIS LOVE OF MAO, HAS WRITTEN AN ARTICLE AP-  
PEARING IN RED FLAG AND PEOPLE'S DAILY THAT PRAISES THE  
LATE CHAIRMAN AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHINESE REVOLUTION.  
IN THE PAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, SEVERAL POSTERS HAVE APPEARED  
COMPLAINING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. ONE DAY BEFORE THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF CHAIRMAN MAO'S  
DEATH ON SEPTEMBER 9, ACTIVITIES IN TIENANMEN SQUARE ARE  
LOW KEYED. IN CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR, ONLY SEVERAL DOZEN  
WREATHS HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE MARTYRS' MONUMENT. SCATTERED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 02823 081118Z

GROUPS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN HAVE STARTED MARCHING INTO THE  
LARGELY DESERTED SQUARE TO PLEDGE THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO CHAIR-  
MAN MAO'S REVOLUTIONARY LINE. IN KEEPING WITH PAST PRACTICE  
ON SECOND ANNIVERSARIES OF MAJOR EVENTS, THERE IS A GENERAL  
EXPECTATION THAT THE 1978 ANNIVERSARY OF MAO'S DEATH WILL  
NOT BE HIGHLIGHTED BY THE PRC LEADERSHIP.

3. SO FAR, THE CHINESE MEDIA HAVE NOTED THE EVENT BY PUBLISHING A 1964 POEM BY MAO TSETUNG AND AN ARTICLE BY HSU SHIH-YU COMMEMORATING THE LATE CHAIRMAN AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHINESE REVOLUTION. THE LATE CHAIRMAN'S POEM IN VIVID BUT OBSCURE IMAGERY STRESSES CONFLICT BUT POSSIBLY OFFERS A GLIMMER OF HOPE TO HIS SURVIVORS WITH THE SUN RISING IN THE LAST LINE. HSU'S ARTICLE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE SEPTEMBER RED FLAG AND WAS REPEATED IN THE SEPTEMBER 8 PEOPLE'S DAILY. CANTON MILITARY REGION COMMANDER HSU SHIH-YU EFFUSIVELY PRAISED THE CHAIRMAN AND HIS REVOLUTIONARY LINE. HSU NOTED THAT THE CHAIRMAN WAS ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT THE THREAT OF REVISIONISM AT THE PARTY CENTER AND RECALLED THAT MAO AND CHOU HELPED PROTECT HSU FROM LIN PIAO AND THE GANG OF FOUR. HSU ALSO STATED THAT MAO WAS AGAINST SPLITISM, CONSPIRACIES, AND USURPERS--THEMES THAT ARE STILL BEING STRESSED IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE "PERNICIOUS INFLUENCE" OF LIN PIAO AND THE GANG OF FOUR IN PROVINCIAL AND MILITARY UNITS. HSU CONCLUDED BY PRAISING CHAIRMAN HUA AS MAO'S ABLE SUCCESSOR AND CALLED FOR "RALLYING TOGETHER CLOSELY" UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CHAIRMAN HUA AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HSU, NOT KNOWN FOR HIS LOVE OF CHAIRMAN MAO, APPEARS AN ODD CHOICE FOR EULOGIZING THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

4. WALLPOSTERS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN THE PAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ARE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 02823 081118Z

LATE CHAIRMAN. LIU CHIA-SHAN, A FORMER MEMBER OF AN AIR FORCE UNIT IN LANCHOU, COMPLAINED THAT HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED NINE TIMES AND HARRASSED FOR OVER TEN YEARS BY "REPRESENTATIVES OF LIN PIAO AND THE GANG OF FOUR" IN HIS UNIT. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED REPEATEDLY, QUESTIONED AND EVEN "BEATEN AND SPAT ON." HIS MOTHER WAS ALSO HARRASSED AND HIS WIFE EVEN DIVORCED HIM ONLY TO BE ARRESTED FOR UNSPECIFIED CRIMES. LIU SAID HE WAS LABELED A "REPRESENTATIVE OF LIU SHAO-CHI" AND HAS WRITTEN NUMEROUS LETTERS TO PARTY AUTHORITIES. EACH TIME THAT HE WAS RELEASED ON THE ORDER OF AUTHORITIES IN PEKING, HE ONLY FOUND HIMSELF ARRESTED ON SOME TRUMPED UP CHARGE BY THIS "REPRESENTATIVE OF LIN PIAO AND THE GANG OF FOUR." IN 1973, HE TOOK HIS CASE TO PEKING ONLY TO BE ARRESTED BY THE PEKING PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU AND SENT BACK TO HIS NATIVE COUNTY (UNSPECIFIED BUT POSSIBLY IN LANCHOW). HE RETURNED TO PEKING IN 1974 AND WAS AGAIN ARRESTED. HE WAS RELEASED AND RE-ARRESTED SEVERAL MORE TIMES IN PEKING, MOST RECENTLY IN JULY 1978. HE STATED THAT HE HAS WRITTEN TO THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONGRESS, AND TO HU YAO-PANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE CCPCC ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT TO NO AVAIL. BOTH POSTERS END WITH A PLEA FOR JUSTICE, HIS "HUMAN RIGHTS"

AND ADHERENCE TO THE NEW CONSTITUTION. ALSO APPEARING IN THE SAME AREA WAS A SMALL TWO-PAGE POSTER BY SU CHEN-WEI FROM THE 57314 MILITARY UNIT IN SHANSI. SU COMPLAINED ABOUT SIMILAR HARASSMENT BY MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

5. AT NOON SEPTEMBER 8, ANOTHER POSTER WAS PUT UP IN FRONT OF THE PEKING OFFICES OF PEOPLE'S DAILY. THE POSTER, SIGNED BY YANG (?) HSING-CHENG, A FORMER TEACHER IN THE FILM INSTITUTE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, WAS ADDRESSED TO THE CULTURAL DEPARTMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S DAILY AND DEMANDED TO KNOW WHY HIS THREE SONGS HAVE NOT BEEN PUBLISHED. HE STATED THAT CHAIRMAN HUA IS CHAIRMAN MAO'S CHOSEN SUCCESSOR. CHAIRMAN MAO EVEN ORDERED THE PROPAGANDA ORGANS TO PUBLICIZE HUA KUO-FENG AND THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT HE WANTS TO DO WITH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PEKING 02823 081118Z

HIS SONGS. INCLUDED ON THE POSTER ARE HIS THREE SONGS, ONE TO CHAIRMAN HUA ("WITH YOU IN CHARGE, I'M AT EAST..."), ONE ABOUT THE NATIONAL FLAG, AND THE OTHER ABOUT TAIWAN ("WE WILL DEFINITELY LIBERATE TAIWAN..."). HE SAID THAT HIS SONGS HAVE BEEN RETURNED BY THE PAPER FOUR TIMES AND HE DEMANDED AN EXPLANATION.

6. ABOUT 75-100 PEOPLE WERE READING THE POSTERS AT BOTH LOCATIONS. WOODCOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DEATHS, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PEKING02823  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780366-0077  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780988/aaaacuwc.tel  
**Line Count:** 145  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d2381054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 PEKING 2652  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1503392  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF MAO'S DEATH: POSTERS AND AT- MOSPHERICS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d2381054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014